DEQ
Montana Department
of Environmental Quality

June 22, 2015

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

TO ALL INTERESTED GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES AND PUBLIC GROUPS

As required by state and federal rules for determining whether an Environmental Impact Statement is necessary, an environmental review has been performed on the proposed action below:

Project	City of Great Falls – 18th Ave South & Middle Basin Stormwater Improvements Project
Location	Great Falls, Montana
Project Number	WPCSRF Project # C305179
	Total Cost - $8,670,520

The City of Great Falls, through two separate Preliminary Engineering Reports (PERs), prepared by TD&H and DOWL HKM consultants respectively, has identified the need to make improvements along 18th Avenue South and in the South Great Falls areas to improve stormwater collection and conveyance prior to the discharge into the Missouri River. The existing stormwater piping at these locations is undersized or non-existent and does not allow for adequate stormwater capture which has resulted in flooding of low-lying areas and city streets.

The purpose of the project is to provide a new stormwater collection and conveyance system, to carry stormwater to existing infrastructure and to three new discharge outfalls to the Missouri River along Lower River Road. This new collection system will allow the city to meet MPDES discharge permit limits associated with their MS4 Permit.

A portion of the proposed stormwater improvements within the Middle Basin are near to an identified petroleum tank release site. Petroleum product may be found in the excavations within this location and must be properly handled during construction to prevent further contamination. Therefore, prior to beginning work, a work plan will be prepared and approved by the DEQ should contaminated soils be encountered during construction. The soils and groundwater, if any, will be handled and disposed of according to the DEQ approved work plan.

The DEQ and DNRC are proposing to fund the project with State Revolving Fund low interest loan funds at the city's request. Environmentally sensitive characteristics such as wetlands, floodplains, historical sites, and threatened or endangered species are not expected to be adversely impacted as a result of the proposed project. No significant long-term environmental impacts were identified.

An environmental assessment (EA), which describes the project and analyzes the environmental impacts in more detail, is available for public scrutiny on the DEQ web site (**http://www.deq.mt.gov/ea.mcpx**) and at the following locations:

Terry Campbell, P.E.
Department of Environmental Quality
1520 East Sixth Avenue
P.O. Box 200901
Helena, MT 59620-09011
tcampbell@mt.gov

Courtney Lyerly
City of Great Falls, Engineering
2 Park Drive South
Great Falls, MT 59403

Comments on the EA may be submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality at the above address. After evaluating substantive comments received, the department will revise the environmental assessment or determine if an environmental impact statement is necessary. If no substantive comments are received during the comment period, or if substantive comments are received and evaluated and the environmental impacts are still determined to be non-significant, the agency will make a final decision. No administrative action will be taken on the project for at least 30 calendar days after the date of this notice of the Finding of No Significant Impact.

Sincerely,

Todd Teegarden, Bureau Chief
Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau

GREAT FALLS, MONTANA
2015 – 2016 CITY OF GREAT FALLS, STORMWATER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

I. COVER SHEET

A. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Applicant:	City of Great Falls
Address:	2 Park Drive South Great Falls, MT 59403
Project Number:	SRF Project # C305179

B. CONTACT PERSON

Name:	Courtney Lyerly
Address:	1025 25th Ave NE Great Falls, MT 59403 2 Park Drive South Great Falls, MT 59403
Telephone:	(406) 771-1258

C. ABSTRACT

The City of Great Falls has two Stormwater Improvement projects planned for construction in 2015 and 2016. The city is seeking State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan assistance to finance construction of these projects. The first project, entitled the "18th Street Storm Drain Improvements" project, consists of upsizing storm piping along portions of 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Streets South from Central Avenue to 20th Avenue South. The second project, entitled the "Middle Basin Storm Drain Improvements" project, focuses on the Middle Basin of the south Great Falls drainage area generally east of Lower River Road and South of 25th Avenue South.

Planned improvements for the 18th Street project include upsizing the existing pipe or installing parallel pipe to increase the capacity of existing stormwater conveyance. The majority of the construction will be conducted within city street sections and into a few grass areas within parks and the city boulevard.

The Middle Basin project will be constructed mainly within streets in areas that are a mix of large and small platted lots. Improvements to the Middle Basin stormwater collection system will serve a small percentage of undeveloped land. There are three stormwater outfalls to the Missouri River planned with this project. Historically flooding has been experienced at the lower elevations within the Middle Basin. There are currently very few storm drainage infrastructure improvements installed within this basin. Storm drainage improvements are necessary to properly handle the existing and future developed area flows. The area just north of the Upper River Road and 31st Avenue South intersection is close to a known petroleum tank release site. A DEQ approved plan for excavation at this location will be developed to ensure contaminated soil or groundwater is not mishandled during construction if any petroleum product is found within soil or groundwater.

The estimated cost to construct the proposed improvements to the Middle Basin and 18th Street Stormwater projects is $8,670,520. The City is proposing to borrow most of the needed capital ($8,329,000) from the DEQ SRF program, with the balance coming from the existing City of Great Falls Storm Drain Enterprise Fund account.

All construction will require a state permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated with Construction Activity, including the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, to ensure that efforts are being made to protect the receiving water from illicit discharges. Work within the river outfall locations below the high water mark are subject to a Nation Wide Permit administered by the US Army Corp of Engineers and DEQ respectively.

Environmentally sensitive characteristics such as wetlands, floodplains, threatened or endangered species and historical sites are not expected to be adversely impacted as a result of the proposed projects. Additional environmental impacts related to land use, water quality, air quality, public health, energy, noise, growth, and sludge disposal were also assessed. No significant long-term environmental impacts were identified.

Under the Montana Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund Act, DEQ may loan money to municipalities for construction of public stormwater systems. The DEQ, Technical and Financial Assistance Bureau, has prepared this Environmental Assessment to satisfy the requirements of the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

D. COMMENT PERIOD

Thirty (30) calendar days

II. PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

A. 18th Street Storm Drain Improvements Project

The 18th Street Storm Drain Improvements are in a 1.9 square mile basin located in south central Great Falls. Figures 3 and 4, at the end of this report, provide air photo maps of the proposed storm piping alignment.

TD&H Incorporated completed a preliminary Engineering Report for the 18th Street Storm Drain project for the city. This report evaluated alternatives and considered impacts associated with the proposed project. The majority of large storm mains in the 18th Street basin are reinforced concrete pipes installed between 1948 and 1964. These pipes are undersized for the current drainage needs in the basin, but are in good physical condition.

With recent construction completed through 2014 in this basin the inlet capacity at two historical trouble spots have been significantly improved along with a significant increase in pipe size downstream of these 18th Street project locations. These prior improvements will not function as designed until the installation of an additional 14 blocks of storm main increases the capacity of the entire storm system. The final configuration of the storm system will connect the new and upsized pipe to a large storm main in Central Avenue that has the capacity to serve this additional flow.

B. Middle Basin of the South Great Falls Storm Drain Improvements Project

The Middle Basin of the South Great Falls Improvement Project will focus on conveying stormwater within an area that is currently a rural system of swales and culverts. The Middle Basin is in a 1.5 square mile basin located in southwestern Great Falls, east of the Missouri River. There are a few newer storm mains associated with the 22nd Street storm pond in the north east corner of the basin. The remainder of the drainage within the basin is undersized or non-existent and cannot properly convey the stormwater in the basin. Figures 5, 6 & 7 depict the Middle Basin project stormwater improvements alignment.

Along the lower section of Middle Basin an existing railroad embankment restricts stormwater from direct access to the Missouri River. Multiple areas of frequent ponding exist east of the railway. At the southwestern end of the Middle Basin the railway has a few older culverts that are in poor condition and don't provide the capacity needed for properly conveying developed storm flows from the east to the west side of the tracks. Much of the Middle Basin area lies on a river plain that is very flat with poor drainage. Flooding has occurred on private property during periods of high precipitation and snow melt. In 2011 the area experienced flooding along 31st and 32nd Avenues South and several other areas off of Upper River Road.

III. ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED AND ESTIMATED COSTS

A. NO ACTION

The no action alternative was considered for both projects. The 18th Street Improvements will prevent flooding in low-lying areas and roadway impacts that have occurred historically. Due to flooding that has occurred at the 15th Avenue and 23rd Street intersection and along the railroad grade within the Middle Basin and potential for flooding in low-lying areas, the no action alternative was determined to create a continuing risk of property damage and road closures during significant storm events. (See Figure 1 below.) The "no action" alternative was not further considered for either project site based on this history of flooding and pooling in low-lying areas.

Figure 1 Flooding at the intersection of 15th Avenue and 23rd Street.

B. 18th Street Basin

For the 18th Street basin the only feasible options included upsizing of pipe or installation of parallel pipe in the area of the existing system. The methods evaluated relied upon reviewing the effects of the 5 year - 2 hour storm and also the 100 year - 2 hour storm. While planning to upsize the existing system, the balance of storage (ponds), street conveyance and pipe capacity were evaluated. This allowed the city to identify the most cost effective means of reducing impacts to areas with historical flooding problems, while avoiding transferring stormwater problems downstream. This alternative evaluated replacement of the existing storm drains with larger box culvert drains adequate to carry the design flow for the basin.

C. Middle Basin

The Preliminary Report for South Great Falls Storm Drainage Master Plan presents a potential alignment of stormwater mains and one inlet catchment basin. These alignments include three Missouri River outfall locations. Pipe alignments have been configured to best follow the existing topography while staying within the planned and existing city right-of-way.

Three outfall locations were developed for discharging the Middle Basin storm flows to the Missouri River. These three outfall locations and associated improvements are identified as MB-1, MB-2 and MB-3 for purposes of identification within this document. MB-1 reaches the river at a location south of the westward extension of 25th Avenue South. MB-2 generally follows the path of the city's south sanitary sewer interceptor main and reaches the river near the westward extension of 32nd Avenue South. The third outfall location (MB-3) would be near the juncture of Lower River Road and 40th Avenue South.

1. MB-1 proposes construction of new storm piping north of 31st Avenue South then along Upper River Road to a point 550 feet south of 25th Avenue South. The pipeline then travels west to the railroad right-of-way and proceeds north 150 feet before crossing the railroad and Lower River Road. The total route length is approximately 2,260 feet. The MB-1 portion of project includes construction of a sedimentation basin at the inlet end just east of 6th Street South.

   An alternative route for MB-1 was considered within the planning document that analyzed an alignment along Upper River Road going further north to the intersection with 25th Avenue South before turning west to cross the railroad and Lower River Road to the Missouri River. That alignment did not provide the grade needed to ensure proper coverage of the stormwater piping in all areas and resulted in a higher cost estimate, so was not further considered.

2. MB-2 proposes construction of stormwater piping along 24th Avenue South from the intersection with Upper River Road, proceeding west across the railroad grade and Lower River Road to the Missouri River. This alignment was determined to be the only alternative for this project section.

3. MB-3 proposes construction of approximately 1,000 feet of stormwater piping. This portion of the project starts within Marlie Drive, starting just south of the Ellen Drive intersection, proceeding north approximately 300 feet, then west across the railroad and Lower River Road, then directly west along a city owned gravel road to the Missouri River.

D. COST COMPARISON - PRESENT WORTH ANALYSIS

A present worth analysis is a means of comparing alternatives in present day dollars and was used to determine the most cost-effective alternative. An alternative with low initial capital cost may not be the most cost efficient project if high operation and maintenance costs occur over the life of the alternative. In this case, O&M costs and salvage values were determined to be inconsequential and therefore not presented in the PER. A 20-year planning period was used in the analysis.

18th Street Basin Alternatives:

18th Street Basin Alternatives (Table 1)

Alternative Number (from above)	Description	Capital Costs
1	**18th Street Single Storm Main**	**$6,210,790**
2	18th Street Parallel Pipe Storm Mains	$6,371,860

The engineering report for the 18th Street Basin concluded that Alternative 1 based on minimizing disturbance and lower cost was the preferred alternative. However, there are a couple of short segments where a dual pipe system will save construction time and impacts and those segments may be installed with a parallel storm drain.

Middle Basin Alternatives:

The engineering report recommends pursuing MB-1, MB-2 and MB-3 within the Middle Basin due to existing rights-of-way, the need to improve storm runoff control and conveyance across the railroad grade to the Missouri River. One of the main considerations for selection of these routes is the City of Great Falls anticipated challenges in obtaining right-of-way and easements with any other alignments. These three Middle Basin alternatives are estimated to cost approximately $2,459,730.

In combination, the 18th Street and Middle Basin projects are estimated to cost approximately $8,670,520. Of that amount, the city is proposing to borrow $8,329,000 from the State Revolving Fund. The balance will be funded out of the existing City of Great Falls, Storm Drain Enterprise Fund account. The city proposes to fund the project using a low interest loan from the Water Pollution Control State Revolving Fund (WPCSRF) program. The city will borrow from the WPCSRF loan program with a 20-year term at an interest rate of 2.5%. Construction is expected to begin August 2015 and may be completed in the summer of 2016.

Rates will need to be increased to allow for repayment of this debt. Average residential properties are billed $4.57 per month currently for stormwater service (dependent on parcel size) and a rate increase to $7.34 per month is projected in the application for funding. The city base rate for stormwater service is $1.32 monthly plus $ 0.39 per 1000 square feet of lot size. The additional rate is capped at 15,000 square feet for residential properties and 10,000 square feet for unimproved areas. The project will result in a rate increase of approximately $2.77 per month for the average residential customer.

E. BASIS OF SELECTION OF PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Each project was planned using information provided in the City of Great Falls Storm Drain Design Manual and the existing basin site conditions. The projects were designed to remove potential hazards from flooding caused by large storm events. Selection of the preferred alternative was based on cost, right-of-way and easement considerations and constructability within the tight alignment in some areas. The alternatives were determined to be very limited and result in very minimal cost differences. Primary drivers for the project are past flooding in low lying areas and the need to better control storm runoff in these urban interface areas.

Based on EPA guidance for project affordability, the proposed project will result in a combined stormwater and wastewater cost per household that is less than 1.0% of the median household income, and therefore, is not expected to impose a substantial economic hardship on household income.

IV. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

A. PLANNING AREA AND MAPS

The City of Great Falls is located in Cascade County, Montana and is generally near the intersection of Highway 87 and US 90 on the Missouri River (See Figure 2).

The 18th Street Basin project is located generally between 1st Avenue South and 8th Avenue South along 18th and 17th Street South corridor. The second segment of this proposed project site is located between 11th Avenue South and 15th Avenue South along the 19th and 20th Street South alignment. (These portions of this project are shown in Figures 3 and 4).

The Middle Basin project site is primarily located between 25th Avenue South and 31st Avenue South and traverses east to west along an alleyway north of 31st Avenue South, then along Upper River Road then again to the west via an easement across private land to Lower River Road, then across the railroad to the Missouri River outfall location. The Middle Basin project also includes a new pipe along 24th Avenue South generally west of 3rd Street South and to the Missouri River. The final segment of this project is located along the Lower River Road (Highway 226) running parallel to Marlie Drive. These three project components are depicted in Figures 4, 5 and 6 respectively and are included at the end of this report.

B. NATURAL FEATURES

The City of Great Falls is located along the Missouri River corridor east of the Rocky Mountain Front on what is termed the northern Great Plains area. The city lies at the southern reach of the historic Laurentide ice sheet, a vast glacial sheet of ice which covered much of North America during the last glacial period. Approximately 1.5 million years ago, the Missouri River was blocked by the Laurentide ice sheet, forming Glacial Lake Great Falls. When the ice sheet retreated, Glacial Lake Great Falls emptied catastrophically in an outburst flood, resulting in the scouring of the current course for the Missouri River flowing east of the city. The city is situated on a fall line of unconformity in the Great Falls Tectonic Zone as well as atop the Kootenai Formation, which is a mostly sandstone laid down by rivers, glaciers and lakes of the past.

Average annual precipitation in Great Falls is 14.75 inches. The wettest months are

typically May and June and the driest months are usually January and February. Great Falls has a cold semi-arid climate with average winter nighttime temperature of 20.8 °F and fairly high summertime temperatures exceeding 90°F. The city sits at an elevation of between 3,200 to 3,400 feet above sea level.

Depth to groundwater in the 18th Street Basin is generally recorded as greater than 90 feet from recorded well logs. Within the Middle Basin project areas, groundwater varies from greater than 30 feet below grade at project locations east of Upper River Road to less than 10 feet in locations west of the railroad grade and Lower River Road. These approximate groundwater depths at the outfall locations may necessitate groundwater removal from excavations during construction. Necessary permits will be secured within these locations to ensure proper handling and disposal of groundwater occurs.

Soils within both the 18th Street and Middle Basin areas are primarily Lihan loamy sands and Yetull loamy sands. These are generally well drained soils and do not occur in areas considered prime farm land. Both major soil types within the project planning areas are suitable for the construction proposed as bedding and backfill material with any larger stones removed.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF PROPOSED PROJECT

A. DIRECT AND INDIRECT INVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

1. Land Use/Prime Farmland – All work will occur on land previously disturbed, mostly adjacent to streets within the city and ditches that were previously disturbed to install the existing storm drain system. There are a couple portions of the Middle Basin project that will include securing easements across private property. The proposed improvements will not impact prime farmland or land use in general.

2. Floodplains and Wetlands – Improvements to the stormwater system will be outside the 100-year floodplain with the exception of the work west of Lower River Road to the Missouri River. Construction work within the 100-year floodplain will be coordinated through the county floodplain administrator, which will require a permit. Clearing of riparian vegetation will be minimized as much as possible. In the project area, the National Wetlands Inventory shows wetlands only on the channel of the Missouri River. Therefore, a Nationwide Permit may be required for this project and will be obtained from the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) prior to beginning work. See Section X: Agencies Consulted of this report for a summary of their comments.

3. Cultural Resources and Historical Sites – No impacts to cultural resources are anticipated. The proposed improvements should not impact historic or cultural resources since all proposed improvements will be completed within the existing disturbed areas. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) reviewed the proposed project. A summary of their comments are provided in Section X of this report.

4. Fish and Wildlife – Animal life will not be significantly affected by the proposed project. The project will not affect any critical wildlife habitats, nor will any known endangered species be affected. The Montana Department

of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services were notified of this project and asked to reply with any concerns. MFWP indicated that they did not have any comments regarding the proposed improvements. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reviewed the proposed project and determined that the project would have no effect on threatened and endangered species. See Section X: Agencies Consulted of this report for a summary of their comments.

5. Water Quality – The proposed stormwater conveyance structures will result in prevention of flooding in low-lying areas. The stormwater outlet structure in the Missouri River will be constructed with a settling pond prior to discharge, which will reduce sediment in the river. The 18th Street conveyance improvements will allow for transport of all design storm flow from those areas to the existing stormwater conveyance and discharge locations serving the city. The city stormwater program is covered under a DEQ administered MS4 Permit, which requires use of best management practices to reduce pollutant loads from impacting State Waters. All improvements being proposed must be in compliance with the MS4 Permit. An identified petroleum tank release site has been identified just south of the intersection of Upper River Road and 31st Avenue South. It is not known if there will be petroleum products within the soil and shallow groundwater at this location, so the design will ensure the contractor secures any necessary permits and implements appropriate measures to stop work and secure a work plan if petroleum products are found during excavation at this location. Coordination for planned work in this location will include input from the DEQ, Remediation Division.

6. Air Quality – Short-term negative impacts on air quality are expected to occur during construction from heavy equipment in the form of dust and exhaust fumes. Proper construction practices will minimize this problem. Project specifications will require dust control.

7. Public Health – Public health will not be negatively affected by the proposed project. The new storm drain outfall pipe will provide additional capacity and resolve stormwater backing up onto the streets and low-lying areas.

8. Energy – A direct increase in energy consumption will not occur due to any of the recommended stormwater improvements. The consumption of energy resources directly associated with construction of the recommended improvements is unavoidable, but will be a short-term commitment.

9. Noise – Short-term impacts from excessive noise levels may occur during the construction activities. The construction period will be limited to normal daytime hours to avoid early morning or late evening construction disturbances. No long-term impacts from noise should occur.

10. Environmental Justice – Environmental Justice Executive Order 12898: The proposed project will not result in disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low income populations. The stormwater service rate will be the same for all property

owners in the service area. No disproportionate effects among any portion of the community would be expected.

11. Growth – Minimal growth may occur within the Middle Basin area because portions of this area are outside of the incorporated city and there are several as-yet undeveloped lots adjacent to the proposed stormwater alignment. The proposed improvements to the stormwater improvements will be a positive feature for the community.

12. Cumulative Effects – No significant secondary and/or cumulative impacts are anticipated with the proposed improvements. Secondary impacts linked to housing, commercial development, solid waste, transportation, utilities, air quality, water utilization, and possible loss of agricultural and rural lands will not occur.

13. Wild and Scenic River Act – The proposed project will not impact any rivers designated as wild and scenic by Congress or the Secretary of the Interior.

B. UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

Short-term construction related impacts (i.e., noise, dust, traffic disruption, etc.) will occur, but should be minimized through proper construction management. Energy consumption during construction cannot be avoided.

VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation for these projects included public meetings held beginning in 2011 to gage interest, then a series of neighborhood meetings to gather input and present planning documents. This resulted in 9 separate Neighborhood meetings. The first meeting where planning documents were presented was on November 6, 2013 at the Neighborhood Council #6 meeting. Updates to progress with easements and proposed project components were then presented at Neighborhood Council #6 meetings on May 7, 2014 and January 7, 2015. At each respective public meeting, the need for the project, the recommended alternatives, and budget were discussed. The only comments within the meeting summaries were supportive for the project.

VII. AGENCY ACTION, APPLICABLE REGULATIONS AND PERMITTING AUTHORITIES

All proposed improvements will be designed to meet City of Great Falls and state standards and will be constructed using standard construction methods. Best management practices will be implemented to minimize or eliminate pollutants during construction. No additional permits will be required from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) section of DEQ for this project after the approval of the submitted plans and specifications. However, coverage under the stormwater general discharge permit and groundwater dewatering discharge permit, are required from the DEQ Water Protection Bureau prior to the beginning of construction. The following permits may be required and will be obtained if necessary: Floodplain Development Permit from the Flathead county floodplain administrator for work in the floodplain, 124 Permit from the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Nationwide General Permit from the U.S. Corps of Engineers, and 318 Authorization from the Department of Environment Quality for any work that occurs in the Missouri River (jurisdictional wetlands and navigable waters).

VIII. RECOMMENDATION FOR FURTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

[ ] EIS [ ] More Detailed EA [X] No Further Analysis

Rationale for Recommendation: Through this EA, DEQ has verified that none of the adverse impacts of the proposed City of Great Falls stormwater improvement project are significant. Therefore, an environmental impact statement is not required. The environmental review was conducted in accordance with the Administrative Rules of Montana (ARM) 17.4.607, 17.4.608, 17.4.609, and 17.4.610. The EA is the appropriate level of analysis because none of the adverse effects of the impacts are significant.

IX. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The following documents have been utilized in the environmental review of this project and are considered to be part of the project file:

1. The Preliminary Report for South Great Falls Storm Drainage Master Plan, completed for the city by DOWL HKM Engineering.
2. South Great Falls Storm Drainage Improvements, Preliminary Engineering Report, completed for the city by TD&H Engineering.
3. City of Great Falls, Storm Drain Design Manual.

X. AGENCIES CONSULTED

The following agencies have been contacted in regard to the proposed construction of this project:

1. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reviewed the proposed project and determined that the project could have effects on migratory birds (including eagles) and recommend to the maximum extent practicable, project construction should be scheduled so as not to disrupt nesting raptors or other migratory birds during the breeding season. A recommendation of a 0.5 mile buffer zone between occupied nests and construction activities during the breeding season was suggested.

2. The Montana Historical Society's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) reviewed the proposed project. They concluded that there is a low likelihood that cultural properties will be impacted by the proposed project, and that a cultural resource inventory is unwarranted at this time. However, they recommended that if structures over 50-years of age should be subject to disturbance, or should cultural materials be inadvertently discovered during the project, SHPO must be contacted and the site investigated.

3. The U.S. Department of the Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) reviewed the proposed project. They responded that a Nationwide General Permit is required and compliance certification must be submitted upon project completion to the USCOE for the proposed work on the bank of the Missouri River at each of the three project outfall locations. A separate USCOE response from the agency wetland coordinator stipulates that if significant wetland impacts are anticipated wetland delineation mapping may need to be performed to determine if impacts to wetlands will need to be addressed along the Missouri River outfall locations.

4. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued an

authorization MTB009414 for Short Term Water Quality Standard for Turbidity Related to Construction Activity (318 authorization) which establishes criteria to minimize construction related discharges of sediment and requires implementation of several best management practices to minimize impacts at the three Missouri River outfall locations.

5. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) reviewed and signed off on the DEQ 318 authorization and also issued a 124 Permit, relative to the Montana Stream Protection Act, for the three outfalls in the Missouri River. The outfall work must conform to the conditions associated with both the 318 authorization and the 124 Permit issued by FWP.

6. The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation indicated that the city may need to secure a floodplain permit from the local Cascade County floodplain coordinator prior to work proposed within the mapped floodplain along the Middle Basin sites.

EA Prepared by:

Terry Campbell — 6/18/15

Terry Campbell, P.E. — Date

EA Reviewed by:

Mike Abrahamson — 6/22/15

Mike Abrahamson, P.E. — Date

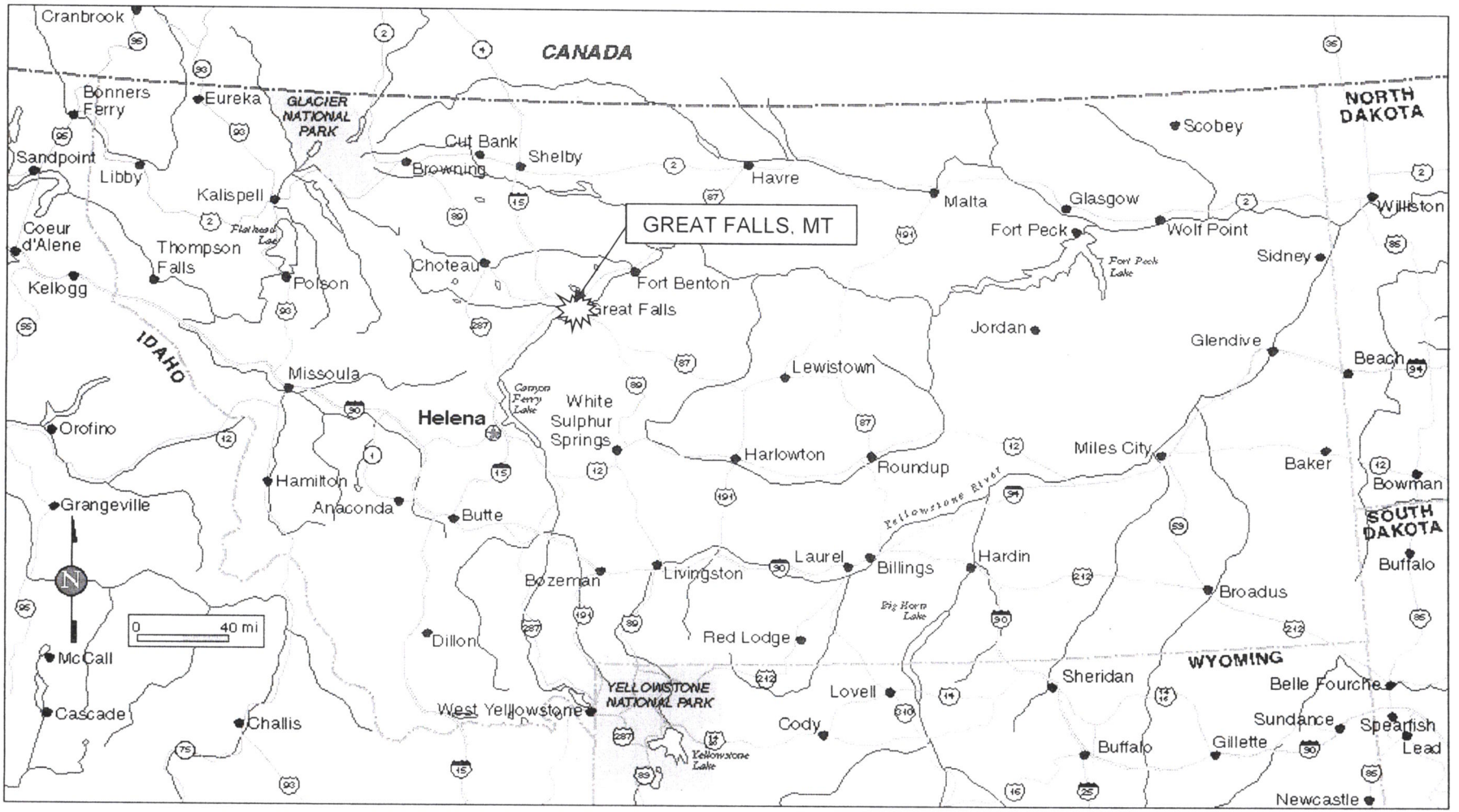

FIGURE 2
LOCATION MAP

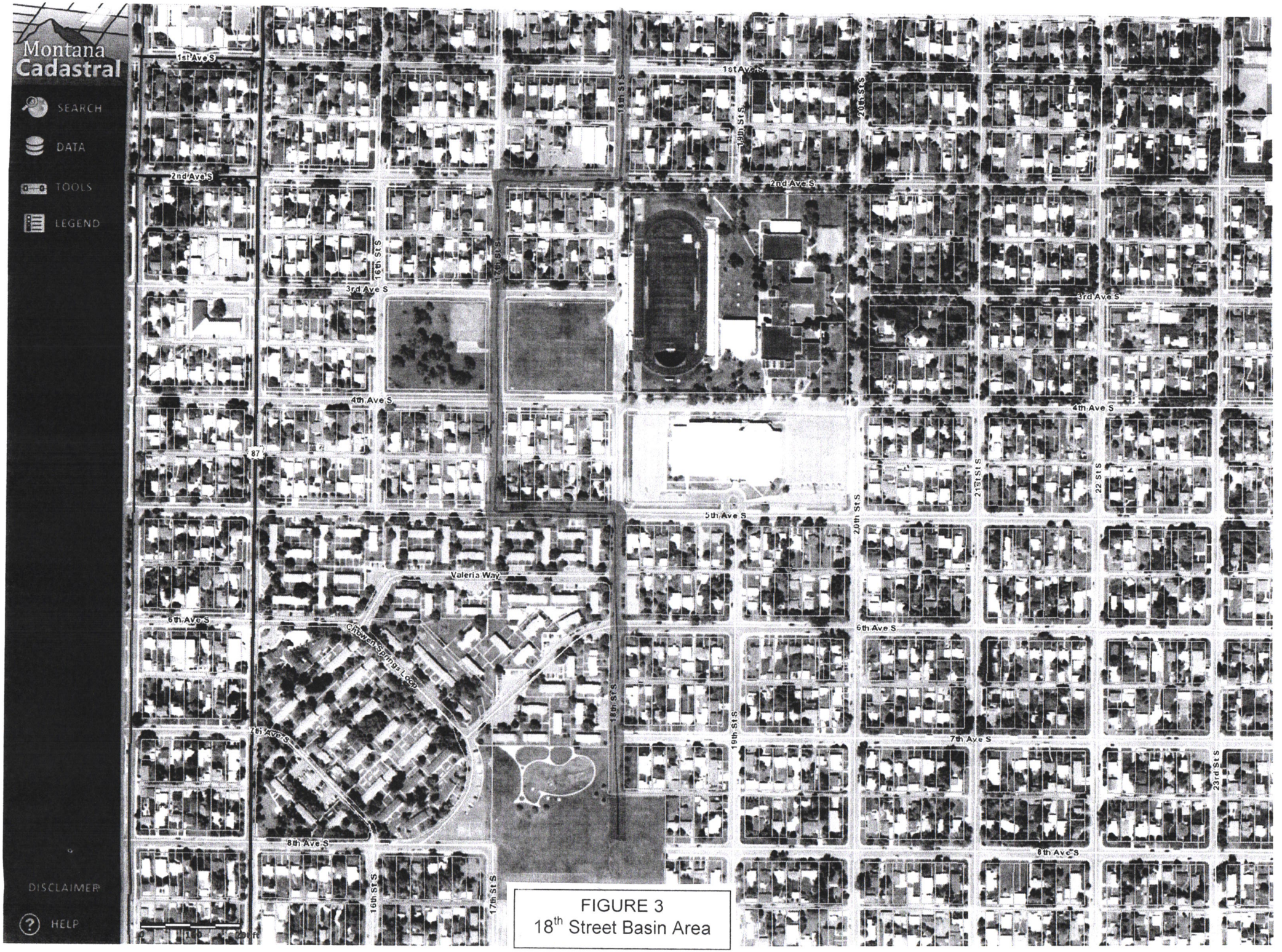

FIGURE 3
18th Street Basin Area

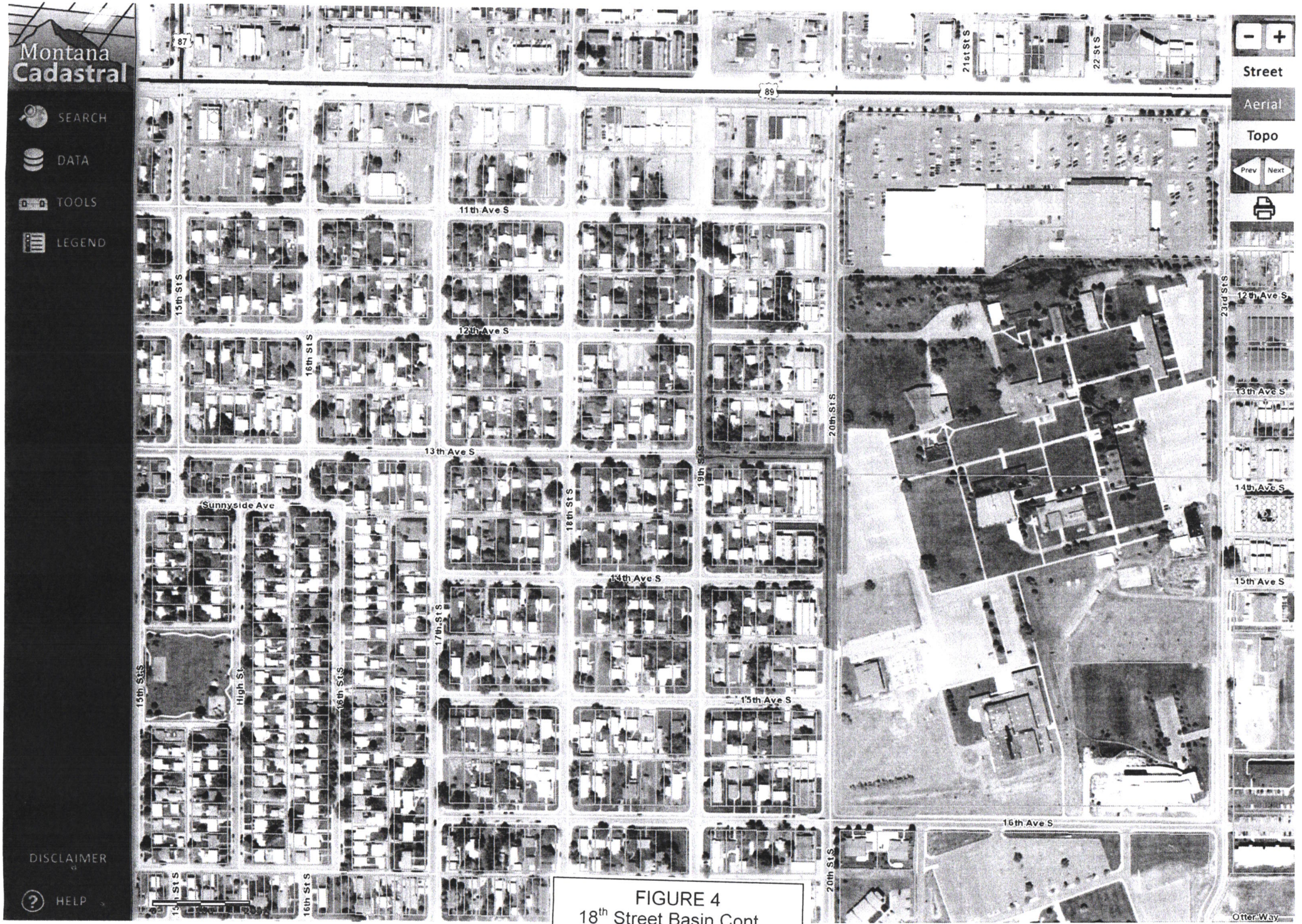

FIGURE 4
18th Street Basin Cont...

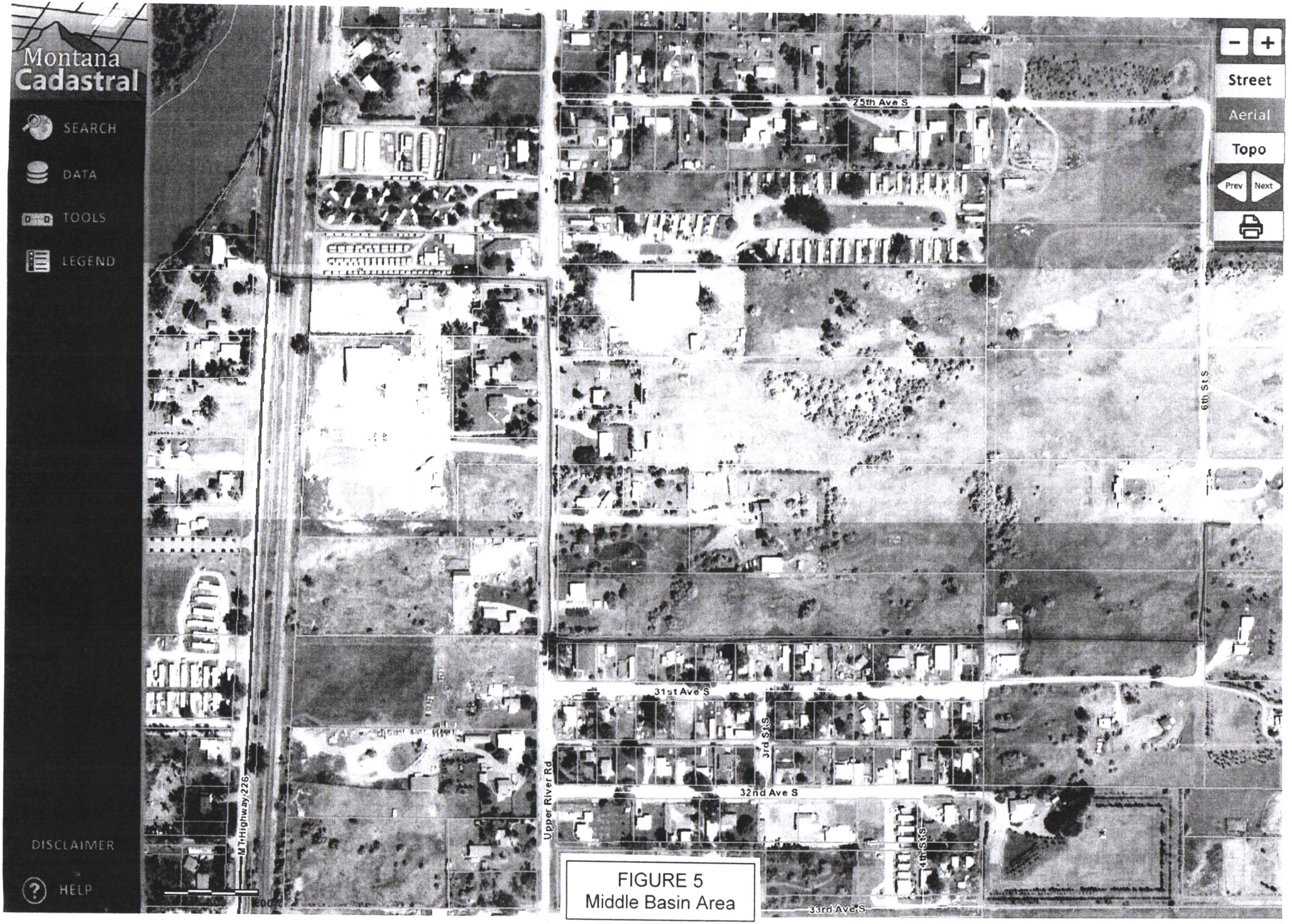

FIGURE 5
Middle Basin Area

FIGURE 6
Middle Basin Area Cont...

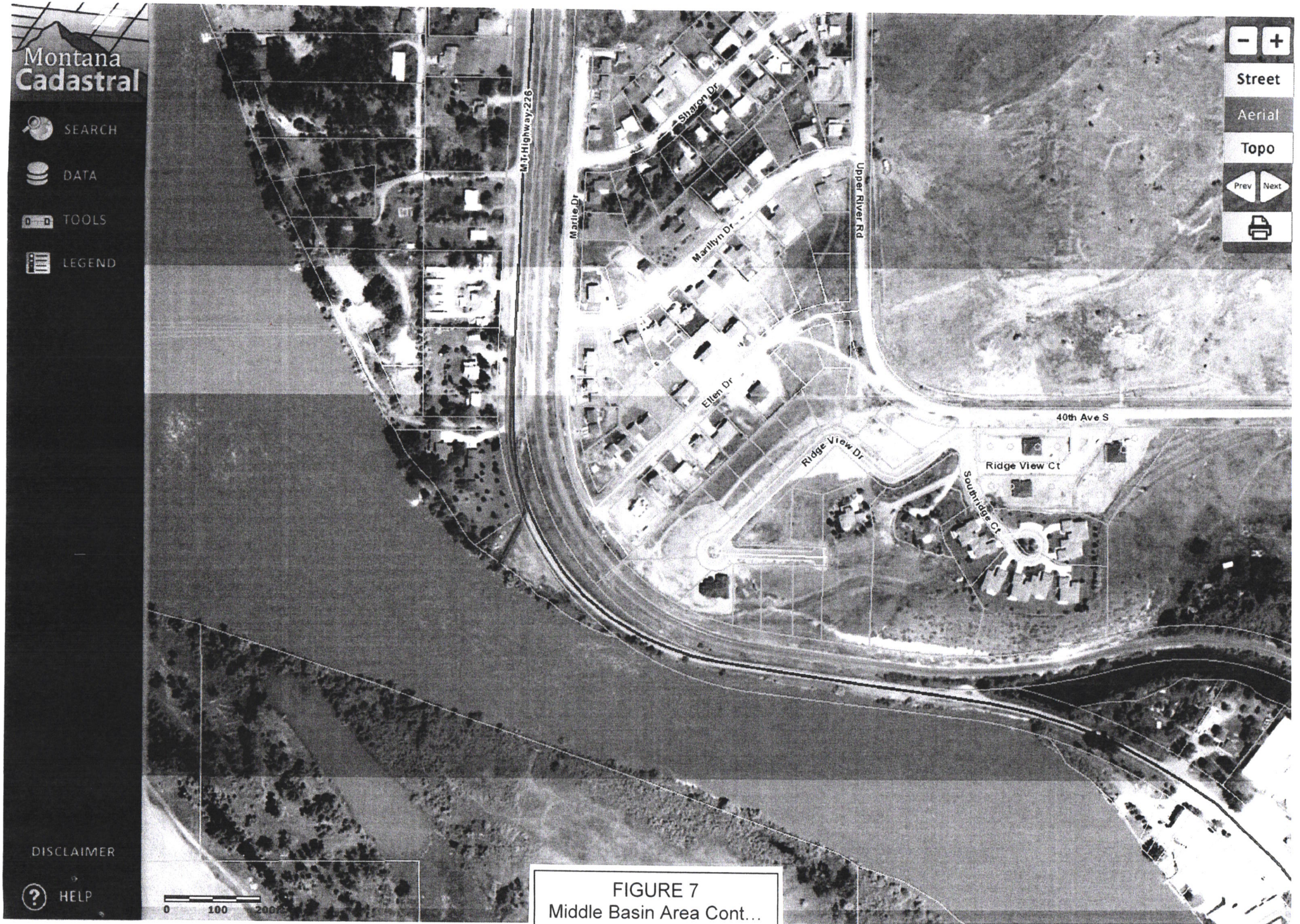

FIGURE 7
Middle Basin Area Cont…

DEQ
Montana Department
of Environmental Quality

Memorandum

To: Terry Campbell, WPCSRF
From: Carolyn DeMartino, SWP Section CD
Date: June 10, 2015

Re: Potential Contaminant Source Review for the Great Falls18th Street Basin and Middle Basin Storm Drain Project Areas

Source Water Protection Section staff and Hazardous Waste Cleanup Bureau staff reviewed the 18th Street Storm Drain Basin for potential contaminant sources (PCSs). One small quantity hazardous waste generator, the University of Great Falls, was identified within the 100-foot buffer for this project area (Figure 1). However, it appears the location may be incorrect as the university is located across the street from where the point is plotted on the map. Based on the review of the Middle Basin Storm Drain Project Area only one PCS was identified. The PCS is a leaking underground storage tank site located near the intersection of Upper River Road and 31st Avenue South (formerly Sylvia Rapley Property; now Richard Teesdale Property).

The PCS review included the use of the following databases: Remediation Division databases (HWCS; State Superfund Section, Site Response Section, Federal Facilities and Brownfields Section, Petroleum Tank Cleanup Section); underground fuel storage tanks (USTs), active and abandoned mine sites, Montana Agricultural Chemical Groundwater Protection Act Sites, Water Quality Act Sites, landfills, transportation routes (roads/ railroads), petroleum pipelines, hazardous waste handlers, septic density, and wastewater discharge areas.

The potential contaminant sources described above are identified from readily available information. Consequently, unregulated activities or unreported contaminant releases may have been inadvertently overlooked. The geographic location accuracy (street address, latitude & longitude) of all identified tank (UST & LUST) sites, if any, should also be verified by the user. The use of multiple sources of information, however, should ensure that the majority of potential contaminant sources were addressed by this review.

The contractor for this project may encounter petroleum contaminated soil in the vicinity of the 31st Avenue South segment of the Middle Basin Storm Drain Project. Should this occur; the contractor should immediately report the event to an actual person using the Montana Department of Environmental Quality Hot Line at: 1-800-457-0568 or after hours and holidays 1-406-324-4777.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to review this project. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Steve Bullock, Governor | Tom Livers, Director | P.O. Box 200901 | Helena, MT 59620-0901 | (406) 444-2544 | www.deq.mt.gov

Figure 1. Great Falls 18th Street Storm Drain Project Potential Contaminant Review

Scale

1,000 500 0 1,000 Feet

N
W E
S

Legend

- 18th St Basin Storm Drain Project Area
- Storm Drain Basin 100-foot Buffer
- City Streets
- Hazardous Waste Handlers
- Remediation Response Sites
- Active Tanks

Mapping by Carolyn DeMartino. DEQ SWPP
June 2015

Figure 2. Great Falls Middle Basin Storm Drain Project Potential Contaminant Source Review